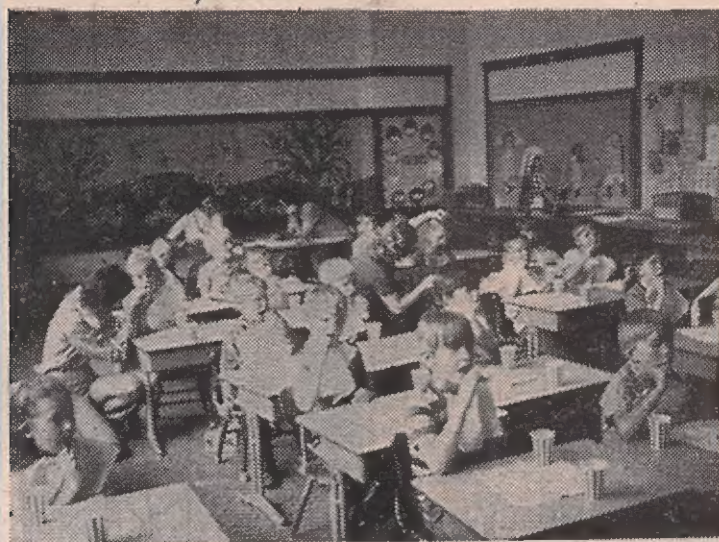


20 Apr 1972

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**"BRUSH IN"**— Wasatch school children were given expert advice on how to brush their teeth and information on dental hygiene under state-wide program of health dept.

## "Brush In" Gives Students Insight Of Dental Hygiene

Orson D. Wright, D.D.S., Director of the Dental Health Section, Utah State Division of Health recently stated that approximately 98% of all people suffer from the most extensive disease of man — dental decay. Fifty-nine percent (59%) of the children of Utah need immediate dental care and about half of our children don't go to the dentist.

Something new has been added in Utah to partially prevent the destruction of the most widespread disease of mankind or dental decay. The new program is called "Brush In."

### Topical Fluoride Method N

The "Brush In" or Self-Application Program sponsored by the County Health Departments and School Districts in many areas of the state is a special topical fluoride method and has as its objective the reduction of dental decay. The program is conducted in cooperation with local practicing dentists and includes giving the child a toothbrush and teaching him a proper method of brushing his teeth under supervision using a special fluoride paste.

The "Brush In" Program was first initiated in Utah in the Fall of 1969 by the Dental Health Section of the Utah State Division of Health. Such programs have been carried out in Emery and Uintah Counties and are planned in several other counties this spring.

Dr. Wright says that "Brush In" Programs are being conducted in many states in the country with unusual success. Results of studies using these particular fluoride preventive pastes are published in North Dakota and Indiana and they exhibit a substantial reduction in decay.

In Utah the program is expected to produce noticeable and substantial reduction of decay as found in other states for a cost of approximately 25 cents per child.

Self-application procedures must be done at least yearly to replenish the fluoride which will wash out of the teeth. Altho reduction of dental decay might be noted, Dr. Wright caution that this procedure is only a secondary and less effective program to the permanent protection gained through fluoridation of water supplies which can prevent 65% or more of dental decay.

### Volunteer PTA Help

The Wasatch County School District carried out the "Brush In" Program recently in the elementary schools with volunteer PTA help and the support and cooperation of the Local Dental Profession, and the Co. Board of Health and Maren Dutrschi, School Nurse.

An orientation class was held for all volunteers by Kathy Lukken, State Dental Hygienist.

Without the women who volunteered to assist, this program would not have been possible.

Those who volunteered are: Kay Anderson, Myrna Vernon, Brenda Price, Joan Shipley, Nelda Duke, Joan Budd, Audrey Probst and Joyce Dudley. The school district is grateful to them.



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